

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT 1. Seamen's Association in Shihtao
 2. Port Activities, Shihtao

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1. The Seamen's Association (Hae Won Kong Hoe in Korean, Hai Yuan Kung Hui in Chinese) (海員公會) in Shihtao (122-25, 36-53) is a Korean trading agency which performs all liaison duties between the Chinese Communist Army (CCA) and North Korea.* The association also contacts Korean smuggling boats entering Shihtao, and those smugglers who are discovered to be anti-Communist are arrested and turned over to the Korean Democratic Federation in Dairen. The Federation, after investigating the cases, transfers them over to the Ministry of the Interior in Pyongyang for final disposition.
2. The association changes the location of its office once every three months. The office has a staff of about five men, all Koreans. The manager is named SO (徐); he is 35 years old and a native of Kosong County (120-20, 34-58). SO worked for the South Manchurian Railroad in Dairen during the Japanese occupation of Manchuria and moved to Shihtao after the war ended. The other men in the office are all named KIM (金) and are all natives of South Kyongsang Province.
3. At Shihtao (122-25, 36-53), the Yuan Tung Li (遠東利) and the Tung Shun Tung (東順同) Trading Companies are conducting trade for the CCA. The Yuan Tung Li began trading with Hong Kong in February 1949, dealing with military supplies needed by the CCA. The main import is gasoline, which is shipped from Shihtao at night to various storage tanks in Shantung Province, and the major exports are beans and bean cakes. One 1,700 ton vessel makes the round trip to Hong Kong once each month.
4. A steel coast guard vessel was purchased by the Shihtao Customs House from Chinnampo, North Korea, in June 1949. Prior to that date, sail boats had been used to guard the port. The ship displaces about 10 tons and is equipped with an 80 horse-power diesel engine.
5. In February 1950, twelve officials, ranging in age from 19 years to 30 years, were employed by the customs house. Guards, working in eight-hour shifts, were on duty twenty-four hours each day. They were not wearing uniforms.

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* Comment. The Seamen's Association has been variously reported as an agency for Japanese and Korean smugglers and as a Chinese Communist military

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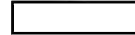
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intelligence agency. In January 1950, the organization employed eight Korean agents, who were headed by a Chinese Communist army officer named HCU (徐).

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